



LAUSD
UNIFIED

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF TEACHING

APRIL 2025

How to Nurture Your Joy in Teaching

Teachers can find enjoyment at work without ignoring real challenges, and doing so may help them and their students continue to learn and grow.

“There’s this spark of joy where everything feels possible.” I said this to a friend over a decade ago when, after I spoke about being a first-year teacher, they asked why I was going to stay in the classroom.

As with many teachers, my first year was rife with my failures. So, when my friend gently prompted me to think about why I was staying, I was surprised by how easily I remembered moments of joy: a student writing a great paragraph or a communal reaction over a short-story twist. When these moments happened, my heart would burst with joy, and they far outweighed the struggles I faced. Eleven years later, I’m still chasing that spark.

There are times when joy feels harder to find, though. Being an educator has its share of challenges—particularly given the pandemic—and finding sparks of joy can be difficult after navigating through the struggles. They are even harder to find when the narrative around our profession has become increasingly focused on what some see as the impossibility of our work.

To read the entire article by **Christina Torres Cawdery**, please click this link: [Finding Sparks of Joy in Teaching | Edutopia](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER



APRIL 9TH
PROVISIONAL INFO MEETING

APRIL 14TH – 18TH
SPRING BREAK

APRIL 21ST
UNIVERSITY INTERN MEETING

APRIL 24TH
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE DAY OBSERVED

APRIL 30TH
NEW TEACHER COLLABORATIVE

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 30TH & 31ST



“WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF TEACHING”
SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR NEW TEACHERS

APRIL IS...



Autism Awareness & Neurodiversity Awareness Month

Autism Awareness & Neurodiversity Awareness Month highlights the need for education and awareness about neurodiversity as well as other topics within the autism community.

The Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity has an Advisory Lesson about [Neurodiversity](#).

National Arab American Heritage Month



The National Arab American Heritage Month initiative was launched in 2017. In 2021, Congress, the U.S. Department of State, and 37 state governors issued proclamations commemorating the initiative. President Biden recognized the month of April as National Arab American Heritage Month with a special commemorative letter. Please find additional resources about responding to Islamophobia at schools [here](#).

[Children's Book List - Arab American Heritage Month](#) - Adapted from the Conscious Kid 2024 & Curated Content from the LA Public Library

WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER



Universal Design for Learning is a scientifically valid framework for guiding practice that provides flexibility in the ways information is presented, in ways students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills, and in the ways students are engaged.

-Higher Education Opportunity Act, 2008

For a range of instructional practices that offer flexibility in how information is presented, please refer to pages 19-26 in the link below.

[PowerPoint Presentation](#)

HELPFUL LAUSD WEBSITES

Division of Instruction (DOI)

Instructional Resources for all grade levels

[Division of Instruction Home / New Home \(lausd.org\)](#)

Multilingual & Multicultural Education (MMED) Support for English Learner Teachers and Students

[Multilingual & Multicultural Education / MMED Update Home Page \(lausd.org\)](#)

Division of Special Education

[New Special Education Division / New Sped Ed Home \(lausd.org\)](#)

iCAAP

Support for Clear SPED & Single Subject Teaching Credentials

[District Intern Program: Professional Development Plan / iCAAP Program \(lausd.org\)](#)

TGI

Support for Clear Gen. Ed Teaching Credentials

[Teacher Training Academy / TEACHER GROWTH AND INDUCTION \(TGI\) \(lausd.org\)](#)

MyPLN

[LAUSD | My Professional Learning Network](#)

THIS MONTH'S TLF FOCUS - STANDARD 1b1: AWARENESS OF STUDENTS' SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, AND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY



Teachers can use various methods to assess and understand their students' skills, knowledge, and language proficiency. Here are some effective ways:

1. **Formative Assessments:** [8 Quick Formative Assessment Strategies | Edutopia](#)

- Use quizzes, polls, and quick checks for understanding during lessons.
- Incorporate exit tickets that require students to summarize what they've learned or express their understanding.

2. **Observation:** [Measuring Learning in the Early Grades Through Deep Observation | Edutopia](#)

- Observe students during collaborative activities and discussions to see how they apply their knowledge and interact with peers.
- Pay attention to non-verbal cues and participation levels in various tasks to gauge comfort and proficiency.

3. **Use of Technology:** [PLS / Digital Learning Tools Students](#)

- Implement educational technology tools that provide adaptive learning experiences and track student performance over time.

Welcome to the World of Teaching New Teacher Collaborative (NTC) Resources



On March 26th the New Teacher Collaborative focused on Universal Design for Learning- TLF 1b1 & 3c1

RESOURCES

Link to the presentation slides: <https://bit.ly/March26NTCSlideDeck>

Multi-part series on inclusionary practices flyer- <https://bit.ly/InclusionaryPractices>

Clip of Shelley Moore, Transforming Inclusive Education. This analogy highlights the concept of UDL. - Shelley Moore: [Shelley Moore: Transforming Inclusive Education](#)

To discover more about Inclusion, please register for the upcoming NTC on April 30th by clicking this link: [New Teacher Collaborative 2024-25 School Year April \(1HR\)](#)

For more information on the NTC, please join our Schoology group. Group Code: 83GF-WF4X-DC5JS

“Teachers using UDL offer their students what architects bestow on their buildings: coherence, utility, and access for all”

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- If you have any questions regarding your credential or status, please contact Credentials and Contracts at (213) 241-5300
- It is required that you attend one Informational Meeting
- There are optional New Teacher Meetings and the dates are as follows: 4/30 and 5/28
- Provisional Intern Permits expire 1 year after the date of issuance
- Short Term Staff Permits expire June 30, 2025
- Email tdas@lausd.net if you still need a mentor
- Check your email on a regular basis as there may be pertinent information from Human Resources

TDAS PROGRAM UPDATES

PROVISIONAL TEACHERS

Make sure to join us for the next Informational Meeting on 4/9/25 if you haven't had the chance to attend yet!

[Provisional Information Meeting](#)

<https://bit.ly/24-25PIPResources>

For additional support contact Sharla Rucker: slr8777@lausd.net

UNIVERSITY INTERNS

If you haven't done so yet, complete your UI Profile using the link below and provide your most updated information.

Link to University Intern Profile:
<https://bit.ly/2425PROFILE>

For additional support, contact Sharon Lee:
sharon.j.lee@lausd.net